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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/519,578	12/27/2004	Takahiro Kosaka	542-015.005	2487

4955 7590 03/06/2007
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EXAMINER

SHAH, MANISH S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2853

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/519,578	Applicant(s) KOSAKA, TAKAHIRO	
	Examiner Manish S. Shah	Art Unit 2853	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carmer et al. (# US 2002/0150678) in view of Hugelshofer et al. (# US 4436523).

Carmer et al. discloses a discharging ink (coating composition) for inkjet printing on cloth ([0151], [0155]) including a nonionic surfactant having HLB value of 6 to 15 ([0119]), a colorant ([0128]) and water ([0093]). They also disclose that the nonionic surfactant is an ethylene oxide adducts of halogenated phenol ([0119]) and amount of surfactant is from 0.01 to 20% by weight ([0120]).

Carmer et al. differs from the claim of the present invention is that the ink comprises ethylene oxide and guanidine weak acid salt.

Hugelshofer et al. teaches that to have an ink with an excellent storage stability, the ink composition having ethylene oxide (column: 3, line: 45-65) and guanidine weak acid salt (column: 4, line: 1-15). They also disclose that the guanidine weak salt is from 0.1 to 5% by weight (see Examples).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the ink composition (coating composition) of Carmer et al. by the

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aforementioned teaching of Hugelshofer et al. in order to have an excellent storage stability ink composition.

2. Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carmer et al. (# US 2002/0150678) in view of Hugelshofer et al. (# US 4436523).

Carmer et al. discloses a process for preparing discharged polyester fiber cloth (synthetic fiber) ([0151]), which comprises a step of injecting a discharging ink (coating composition) for inkjet printing on cloth ([0151], [0155]) including a nonionic surfactant having HLB value of 6 to 15 ([0119]), a colorant ([0128]) and water ([0093]). They also disclose that step of wet heat treatment or dry heat treatment at 15 to 190 degree C, and step of soaping treatment ([0129]-[0133], [0157]-[0161]).

Carmer et al. differs from the claim of the present invention is that the ink comprises ethylene oxide and guanidine weak acid salt.

Hugelshofer et al. teaches that to have an ink with an excellent storage stability, the ink composition having ethylene oxide (column: 3, line: 45-65) and guanidine weak acid salt (column: 4, line: 1-15). They also disclose that the guanidine weak salt is from 0.1 to 5% by weight (see Examples).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the ink composition (coating composition) of Carmer et al. by the aforementioned teaching of Hugelshofer et al. in order to have an excellent storage stability ink composition.

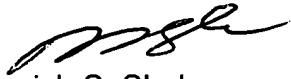
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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manish S. Shah whose telephone number is (571) 272-2152. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Manish S. Shah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2853

MSS

2/26/07